

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-05 SCCT-01

IO-10 /078 W

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O R 291445Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8402

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBUR

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1790

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: DUTCH AMBASSADOR MEETS NYERERE

1. DUTCH AMBASSADOR VAN DEN BERG MET TODAY (MAY 29) WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE CONCERNING THE KIDNAPPED STUDENTS. VAN DEN BERG SAID NYERERE WAS IN RELAXED AND JOVIAL MOOD.

2. OPENING THE DISCUSSION VAN DEN BERG SAID HE ASKED NYERERE IF HE WOULD APPROVE OF THE DISPATCH TO THE PRP AREA OF A RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVE, A MISSIONARY OR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM UNHCR. THE PURPOSE OF SUCH A VISIT WOULD SIMPLY BE TO ASSURE THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF THE STUDENTS. AFTER THIS INITIAL VISIT BY SUCH AN OFFICIAL IT MIGHT THEN BE POSSIBLE TO GET AGREEMENT ON A LIAISON OFFICER AND GET A DIALOGUE STARTED WITH THE PRP LEADERS. NYERERE REPLIED THAT HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO SUCH AN OFFICIAL GOING TO THE REBELS' CAMP FROM THE TANZANIAN SHORE, NOR TO A GO-BETWEEN BASING HIMSELF IN TANZANIA AND PERIODICALLY GOING TO THE REBELS' CAMP IN ZAIRE. HE WOULD EVEN CONCUR IN THE AMERICAN CONSUL WHO IS

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NOW IN KIGOMA MAKING SUCH A TRIP.

3. NYERERE SAID THAT HE FINDS IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE PRP LEADERS IN ZAIRE HAD NOT HEARD OF THE RELEASE FROM DETENTION IN TANZANIA OR THEIR COLLEAGUES. THE BUSH CIRCUIT IS VERY ACTIVE ON THE SHORES OF LAKE TANGANYIKA AND NEWS TRAVELS RAPIDLY. NINE YEARS AGO, NYERERE CONTINUED, TANZANIA SUPPORTED THE PRP WITH ARMS AGAINST TSHOMBE. WITH TSHOMBE'S OVERTHROW, TANZANIAN SUPPORT TO THE PRP ENDED. A REQUEST NOW FOR ARMS AND MONEY FROM TANZANIA CAN SEEMINGLY ONLY BE INTENDED TO EMBARRASS TANZANIA.

4. VAN DEN BERG, DISCUSSING CONVERSATION AFTERWARDS WITH US, SAID THAT THIS MAY EXPLAIN IN PART THE CURIOUS TWIST THE EDITORIAL TOOK TODAY IN THE DAILY NEWS (DAR ES SALAAM 1768). THOUGH POORLY EXPRESSED, THE EDITORIAL DOES IMPLY THIS NEW CONCEPTION OF THE PURPOSE BEHIND THE KIDNAPPING NOW CURRENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT, THAT IS THAT THE PRP OR SOMEONE BEHIND THE PRP IS TRYING TO EMBARRASS NYERERE AND TANZANIA.

5. VAN DEN BERG SAID PRINCE BERNHARD HAD TELEPHONED NYERERE PERSONALLY TWO DAYS AGO TO URGE TANZANIAN HELP IN THE RELEASE OF THE STUDENTS. VAN DEN BERG SAID HE ALSO BROUGHT A REQUEST FROM THE QUEEN, WHO KNEW EMILIE BERGMANN AS A LITTLE GIRL, THAT NYERERE PERSONALLY DO WHAT HE CAN TO BRING ABOUT HER RELEASE.
CARTER

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